

HOUSE BILL 2826

By Buck

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 7; Title 49, Chapter 8 and Title 49, Chapter 9, relative to the governance of higher education.

WHEREAS, the governance of the state universities of the state of Tennessee requires one central, fiscally responsible governing body; and

WHEREAS, decision making and oversight must be vested in one governing body of unquestionable integrity; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-8-101(a), is amended by adding the following after the words "to be composed of":

the University of Tennessee at Knoxville,  
the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga,  
the University of Tennessee at Martin,  
the University of Tennessee medical school,  
the University of Tennessee college of veterinary medicine,  
the University of Tennessee space institute,  
the University of Tennessee institute of public service,

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Sections 49-9-101, 49-9-105, 49-9-109, 49-9-110, 49-9-111, and Title 49, Chapter 9, Part 2, are deleted in their entireties.

SECTION 3. The Tennessee code commission is hereby requested to substitute "state board of regents" or the equivalent in the place of references to the University of Tennessee

board of trustees or its equivalent, as appropriate to reflect the merger of the state board of regents system and the University of Tennessee system.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-202(c)(3), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and substituting the following:

(3) To terminate particular programs, departments, academic divisions, branch operations, extension services, adult education activities, public service activities, and work programs of the various institutions of higher learning, based on cost, relevance, and minimizing the duplication and overlapping of functions and services, and to foster cooperative programs among the various institutions:

(A) A copy of the terminations shall be filed with the education committees of the house of representatives and senate.

(B) The commission shall review tuition, maintenance fees, and other charges assessed by each institution and make recommendations to the governing boards of the various institutions regarding adjustments.

(C) The provisions of this subdivision shall apply to area vocational-technical schools.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004, the public welfare requiring it.